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Frame phase synchronous system and a method thereof

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FRAME PHASE SYNCHRONOUS SYSTEM AND A METHOD THEREOF

Abstract

5

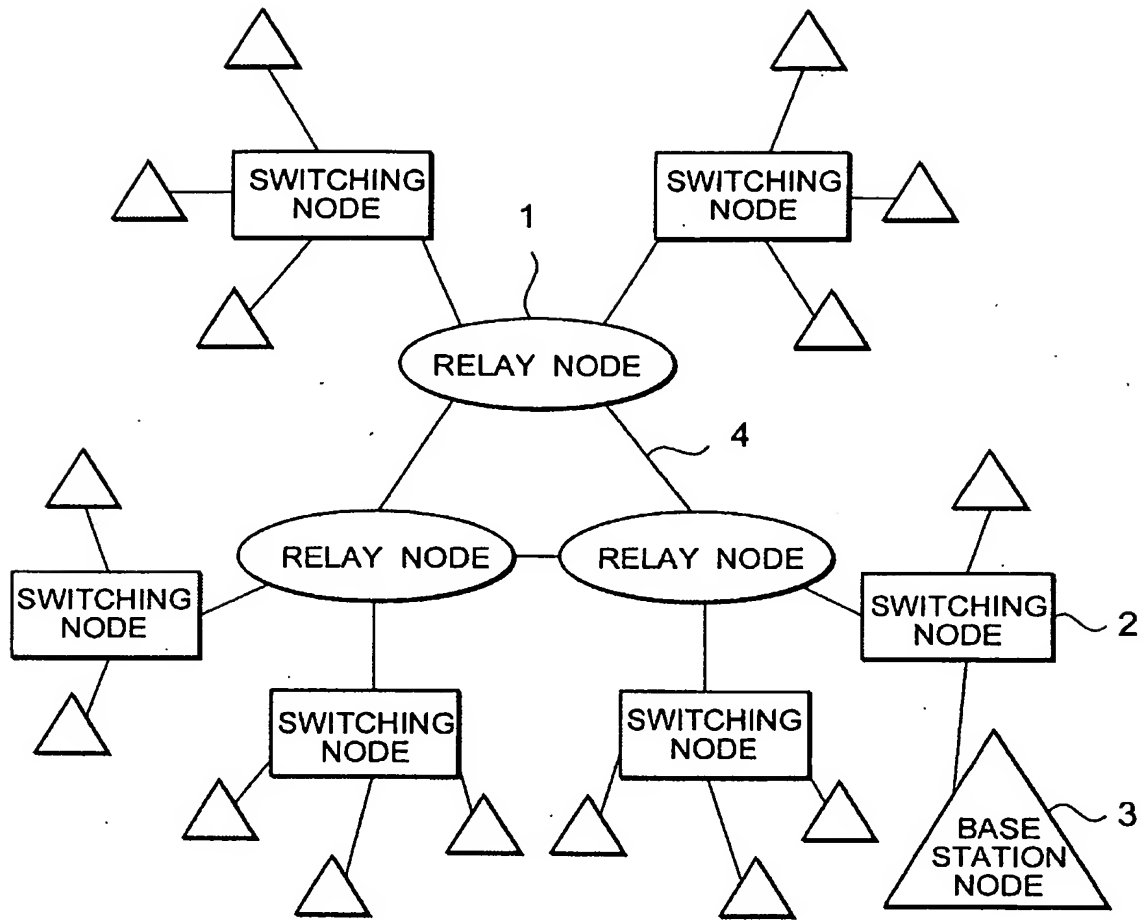
A frame phase synchronous system, which is accurate with a simple configuration for adjusting phase synchronisation in a digital mobile communication in a digital mobile communications system, is provided. A relay node (1) measures a frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes and obtains an optimum shift value as a first shift value, which is used for adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node (1) and for notifying to a switching node (2) connected as a slave. The switching node (2) measures a frame phase difference with respect to said host relay node (1) and a frame phase difference with respect to a base station node (3) as the slave, and obtains a second shift value by adding the first shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node (1) for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching node, and also obtains a third shift value by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the base station node (3) for notifying the third shift value to the base station node. The base station node (3) adjusts the phase synchronous by the third shift value notified by the host switching node.

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15

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Fig.1



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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

FOR A STANDARD PATENT

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Invention Title:

Frame Phase Synchronous System and a Method Thereof

The following statement is a full description of this invention, including the best method of performing it known to me/us:-

FRAME PHASE SYNCHRONOUS SYSTEM AND
A METHOD THEREOF

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 1. Technical Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a frame phase synchronous system for adjusting phase synchronization between respective nodes such as relay nodes, switching nodes and base station nodes in a digital mobile communications system and, more particularly, to a frame phase synchronous system for measuring a frame phase difference by using a loop-back function of an ATM (ASYNCHRONOUS TRANSFER MODE) cell and independently matching the frame phases between the individual nodes.

10 2. Description of the Related Art

15 As a system for matching the frame synchronization between the nodes within the network, there is a master-slave synchronous system for realizing frequency synchronization between a master device and a slave device, wherein the master device transmits a transmission signal which is synchronized with a reference frequency of a reference clock in the master device, and the slave device extracts a clock signal from the received transmission signal and makes an oscillator of the device itself synchronized in phase with it.

20 Further, there is a mutual synchronous system which measures phase differences between own node and all other nodes and

25

transfers the measuring results to other nodes, thus obtaining an average of the phase differences between all nodes, then setting this average to the frame phase of the own node, and thereby making the frame phase synchronization.

5 In a conventional digital mobile communications system, a master-slave synchronous system is applied in which a master node supplies a frame phase synchronous signal to switching nodes and base station nodes in the network via an STM (SYNCHRONOUS TRANSFER MODE) network. There arises, however, such a problem that a
10 synchronizing accuracy can not be set to under 125 μ sec. at the minimum in terms of such a condition that the STM network be used. This is because it is prescribed in the STM network that the synchronization is executed by using one bit determined in one time slot, and hence the synchronizing accuracy can not be set
15 to a one time slot length (125 μ sec.) or under.

Further, it is required in the mutual synchronous system that a path for matching the time be formed for all the nodes, and a device for calculating the phase difference is also needed, resulting in such a problem that the construction of each node
20 becomes intricate.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A frame phase synchronous system according to the present invention is characterized by having the following constructions
25 in order to solve the problems described above.

A frame phase synchronous system for adjusting phase synchronization in a digital mobile communications system comprises: a relay node which measures a frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back, also obtains an optimum shift value as a first shift value for adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node, and for notifies the first shift value to a switching node connected to as a slave; a switching node which measures a frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node and a frame phase difference with respect to a base station node as the slave, obtains a second shift value by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching node, and also obtains a third shift value by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the base station node as the slave for notifying the third shift value to the base station node; and a base station node which adjusts the phase synchronous by the third shift value notified by the host switching node.

Also, the relay node further comprises: a first frame phase difference adjusting unit which measures a frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes, and obtains an optimum shift value as a first shift value for adjusting the phase synchronous

in the relay node; and a first shift value notifying unit which notifies the first shift value to the switching node accommodated as a slave.

The switching node further comprises: a frame phase
 5 difference measuring unit which measures a frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node and a frame phase difference with respect to the base station node as the slave; a second frame phase difference adjusting unit which obtains a second shift value by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived
 10 from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching node; and a third frame phase difference adjusting unit which obtains a third shift value by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference
 15 with respect to the base station node accommodated as the slave for notifying the third shift value as an shift value to be adjusted in the base station node.

A method of frame phase synchronous in a digital mobile communications system, in which a plurality of relay nodes, switching nodes as slave nodes of the relay node, and base station
 20 nodes as slave nodes of the switching node are provided, according to the present invention is characterized by having the following constructions:

(1) measuring a frame phase difference, in the relay node,
 25 with respect to other relay nodes using a method of calculating

a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back;

(2) obtaining an optimum shift value as a first shift value for adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node;

5 (3) notifying the first shift value from the relay node to a switching node connected as a slave;

(4) measuring a frame phase difference, in the switching node, with respect to the host relay node and a frame phase difference with respect to a base station node as the slave using a method
10 of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back;

(5) obtaining a second shift value, in the switching node, by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the host
15 relay node for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching node;

(6) obtaining a third shift value, in the switching node, by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to the base
20 station node as the slave for notifying of the third shift value the base station node; and

(7) adjusting the phase synchronous, in said base station node, by the third shift value notified by the host switching node.

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing an example of architecture of a mobile communications network.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing a construction of a frame phase synchronous part in a relay node according to the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing a construction of a frame phase synchronous part in a switching node according to the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a block diagram showing a construction of a frame phase synchronous part in a base station node according to the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a sequence diagram showing a procedure of executing a phase shift according to the present invention.

Fig. 6 is a sequence diagram showing a one-way propagation delay time measurement using an ATM cell loop-back.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

An architecture of a digital mobile communication system in one embodiment of the present invention will be explained referring to Fig. 1.

(Construction of the Whole)

In the present invention, respective nodes such as a relay node 1, a switching node 2 and a base station node 3 are connected via an ATM transmission line 4, and all the nodes establish clock synchronization. The base station node 3 is a radio base station

for providing radio service area for mobile nodes. The switching node 2 is a mobile switching center for switching calls to/from mobile nodes through the radio base station, and controls radio base stations for the mobile communication. The relay node 1 is also a mobile switching center, but only handles relaying traffic in the mobile communication network. The relay node 1 can be a gateway switching center to interface with other communication network such as a fixed communication network.

All the relay nodes are connected each other with a mesh type connection by the ATM transmission lines. The relay node and a plurality of switching nodes accommodated in the relay node are also connected via the ATM transmission lines. Further, each of the switching nodes accommodates a plurality of base station nodes.

(Construction of Relay Node)

Next, a construction of the relay node 1 according to the present invention will be described with reference to Fig. 2.

Each relay node includes a communication control unit 11 for performing communications with other relay nodes and with the switching nodes accommodated therein as slaves. Further, the relay node includes a frame phase difference measuring unit 12 for measuring a frame phase difference between the relay nodes by using an ATM cell loop-back function, a shift value-1 calculating unit 13 for calculating a shift value-1 on the basis of an average value of the frame phase differences from other relay

nodes which have been measured by the frame phase difference measuring unit, and a shift value-1 storage unit 14 for storing the calculated shift value-1. Moreover, the relay node includes a shift value-1 notifying unit 15 for notifying of the shift value-1 the switching nodes accommodated therein as the slaves, and a phase shift processing unit 16 for executing a phase shift of the relay node itself in accordance with the shift value-1. Furthermore, the relay node includes a frame phase synchronous signal device 17 for retaining clock synchronization established within the system.

(Construction of Switching Node)

Next, a construction of the switching node 2 according to the present invention is explained referring to Fig. 3.

Each of the switching nodes includes a communication control unit 21 for implementing communications with the host relay node and the base station nodes accommodated therein as slaves. Further, the switching node includes a frame phase difference measuring unit 22 for measuring frame phase differences between the host relay node and the switching node itself and between the switching node itself and all the base station nodes accommodated therein as the slaves by using the ATM cell loop-back function. Furthermore, the switching node includes a shift value-2 calculating unit 23 for calculating a shift value-2 by adding the shift value-1 of which the host relay node has notified to the frame phase difference between the host relay node and the

switching node itself which has been measured by the frame phase difference measuring unit, and a shift value-2 storage unit 24 for storing the calculated shift value-2.

On the other hand, the switching node includes a shift value-3 calculating unit 25 for calculating a shift value-3 per base station by adding the shift value-2 to the frame phase difference between the switching node itself and the all the base station nodes accommodated therein as the slaves which has been measured by the frame phase difference measuring unit, a shift value-3 storage unit 26 for storing the calculated shift value-3, and a phase shift processing indication unit 27 for giving an indication to execute a phase shift as well as notifying each base station node as the slave of the shift value-3.

Moreover, the switching node includes a phase shift processing unit 28 for executing a phase shift of the switching node itself in accordance with the shift value-2. Furthermore, the switching node includes a frame phase synchronous signal device 29 for retaining the clock synchronization established within the system.

(Construction of Base Station Node)

Next, a construction of the base station node 3 according to the present invention will be explained referring to Fig. 4.

Each of the base station nodes includes a communication control unit 31 for implementing communications with the host relay node. Further, the base station node includes a phase shift

processing unit 32 for executing a phase shift of the base station node itself in accordance with the shift value-3 of which the host switching node has notified. Furthermore, the base station node includes a frame phase synchronous signal device 33 for retaining
 5 the clock synchronization established within the system.

(Explanation of Operation)

An operation of the frame phase synchronous system according to the present invention will hereinafter be described with reference to Fig. 5.

10 To start with, the relay node 1 and the switching node 2 measure frame phase differences between the respective nodes such as between the respective relay nodes, between the relay node and the switching node, and between the switching node and the base station node (S11, S21). The relay node 1 measures, based on the
 15 ATM cell loop-back, the frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes, and the switching node measures, based on the ATM cell loop-back, the frame phase differences with respect to the host relay node and with all the base station nodes as the slaves. This frame phase difference measurement will
 20 hereinafter be explained in greater details referring to Fig. 6.

To begin with, the measuring side node writes a time T1 to a time data segment of the ATM cell for indicating the time when the cell is transmitted, and transmits this ATM cell to a loop-back side node via the communication control unit (11 or 21) from the
 25 frame phase difference measuring unit (12 or 22) (S61). The

loop-back side node, upon receiving the ATM cell transmitted from
 the measuring side node (S62), writes a receiving time (T2) and
 a send-back time (T3) of the same cell to the time data segment
 of the received cell, and sends the cell back to the measuring
 side node at the time T3 (S63). The measuring side node, upon
 receiving the cell looped back, records a receiving time T4 (S64).
 Next, the frame phase difference measuring unit (12 or 22)
 calculates a one-way propagation delay time between the measuring
 side node and the loop-back side node from the obtained data (S65).
 The one-way propagation delay time d_m is obtained by an average
 of $T_2 - T_1$ and $T_4 - T_3$. Further, the frame phase difference is
 calculated. Herein, if there is no frame phase difference between
 the measuring side node and the loop-back side node, the ATM cell
 transmitted at the time T3 in the loop-back side node is to be
 received by the measuring side node at time $T_3 + d_m$ after the
 one-way propagation delay time d_m has elapsed. Namely, the ATM
 cell receiving time T4 in the measuring side node must be equal
 to $T_3 + d_m$. Accordingly, if the frame phase of the measuring side
 node is not coincident with the frame phase in the loop-back side
 node, the frame phase difference is obtained by $T_4 - T_3 - d_m$.

This frame phase difference measurement is not required to
 be executed strictly in time-synchronization, and may therefore
 be done when a maintenance worker makes a time correction by a
 manual time adjustment.

The shift value-1 calculating unit 13 of each relay node

calculates the shift value-1 by taking an average value of the frame phase differences with respect to other relay nodes which are obtained through the frame phase difference measurement by the frame phase difference measuring unit 12 (S12), and makes the shift value-1 storage unit 14 to store this value (S13). Further, the shift value-1 notifying unit 15 notifies of the shift value-1 all the switching nodes accommodated as the slaves (S14).

In each switching node 2, the shift value-2 calculating unit 23 calculates a shift value-2 by adding the frame phase difference with respect to the host relay node which has been obtained through the frame phase difference measurement, to the shift value-1 of which the host relay node has notified (S22), and makes the shift value-2 storage unit 24 to store this value (S23). Furthermore, the shift value-3 calculating unit calculates a shift value-3 per base station node by adding the frame phase difference with respect to each base station node accommodated as the slave which has been obtained through the frame phase difference measurement, to the shift value-2 (S24), and makes the shift value-3 storage unit 26 to store with this value (S25).

With the operation described above, each relay node and switching node execute, in a state of being stored with the shift values 1, 2 and 3, the phase shifts at a predetermined time specified as every target time.

In each relay node 1, the phase shift processing unit 16 reads at the predetermined time the shift value-1 previously stored in

the shift value-1 storage unit 14, and executes the phase shift for correcting the frame phase difference with respect to the frame phase synchronous signal device 17 (S15).

In each switching node 2, the phase shift processing unit
 5 28 reads at the same predetermined time as that in the relay node the shift value-2 previously stored in the shift value-2 storage unit 24, and executes the phase shift for correcting the frame phase difference with respect to the frame phase synchronous signal device 29 (S27). However, the switching node 2 controls
 10 the phase shift of the base station node 3 accommodated as the slave, and hence, before effecting the phase shift (S27) of the node itself, the phase shift processing indication unit 27 reads the shift value-3 from the shift value-3 storage unit 26, transmits the corresponding shift value-3 to each base station
 15 node 3 accommodated as the slave, and gives an indication to execute the phase shift process (S26).

In the base station node 3, when receiving the shift value-3 transmitted from the host switching node 2 at the predetermined time, the phase shift processing unit 32 executes the phase shift
 20 for correcting the frame phase difference with respect to the frame phase synchronous signal device 33 (S31).

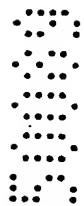
Note that the shift value-1 is set as the average value of the frame phase differences between the relay nodes, however, if the number of nodes increases, a median or a mode may also be set
 25 as the shift value-1 in order to avoid an influence of scatter.

Further, the ATM transmission line has a large scatter of delay fluctuations, and therefore an average value or a median or a mode may also be taken by carrying out the measurement a plurality of times when measuring the phase difference between the respective nodes.

In this embodiment, the frame phase difference between the relay node and the switching nodes accommodated as the slaves, is measured in the switching node, however, this construction may be made so that the measurement is effected in the relay node. Further, the frame phase difference between the switching node and the base station nodes accommodated as the slaves, is measured in the switching node, however, this construction may be made so that measurement is implemented in the base station node.

According to the present invention, it is feasible to establish the high-accuracy frame phase synchronization within the mobile communication network because of using the ATM transmission line for measuring the transmission delay time. Further, there exists no master node for the frame phase in the network as a whole, and, because of the frame phase being determined by a statistic average between the relay nodes, the operation management is facilitated as well as increasing a redundancy of retaining the frame phase as the network. Moreover, the frame synchronization between the relay nodes is corrected by the mutual synchronizing system, while the frame synchronization between the relay node and the switching node and

between the switching node and the base station node, is corrected by the master-slave system, and, with this construction, the base station does not require the phase difference calculating device, thereby exhibiting such an effect as to facilitate structuring.



The claims defining the invention are as follows:

~~WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:~~

1. A frame phase synchronous system for adjusting phase synchronization in a digital mobile communications system, said system comprising:

5 a relay node for measuring a frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back, for obtaining an optimum shift value as a first shift value for adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node, and
10 for notifying of the first shift value a switching node connected to said relay node as a slave;

 a switching node for measuring a frame phase difference with respect to said host relay node and a frame phase difference with respect to a base station node as the slave using a method of
15 calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back, for obtaining a second shift value by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to said host relay node for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching
20 node, and for obtaining a third shift value by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to said base station node as the slave for notifying of the third shift value said base station node;
 and

25 a base station node for adjusting the phase synchronous by

the third shift value notified by said host switching node.

2. The frame phase synchronous system according to claim 1, said relay node further comprising:

5 a first frame phase difference adjusting unit for measuring a frame phase difference with respect to other relay nodes using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back, and for obtaining an optimum shift value as a first shift value for adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node; and

10 a first shift value notifying unit for notifying of the first shift value said switching node accommodated as a slave.

3. The frame phase synchronous system according to claim 2, said switching node further comprising:

15 a frame phase difference measuring unit for measuring a frame phase difference with respect to said host relay node and a frame phase difference with respect to said base station node accommodated as the slave using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back;

20 a second frame phase difference adjusting unit for obtaining a second shift value by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to said host relay node for adjusting the phase

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synchronous in the switching node; and

a third frame phase difference adjusting unit for obtaining
a third shift value by adding the second shift value to a shift
value derived from the measured frame phase difference with
5 respect to said base station node accommodated as the slave for
notifying the third shift value as an shift value to be adjusted
in the base station node.

4. The frame phase synchronous system according to claim 2,
10 wherein said first frame phase difference adjusting unit obtains
the optimum shift value, as a first shift value for adjusting the
phase synchronous in the relay node, by taking an average value
of the frame phase differences with respect to said plurality of
other relay nodes.

15
5. The frame phase synchronous system according to claim 2,
wherein said first frame phase difference adjusting unit obtains
the optimum shift value, as a first shift value for adjusting the
phase synchronous in the relay node, by taking a median of the
20 frame phase differences with respect to said plurality of other
relay nodes.

6. The frame phase synchronous system according to claim 2,
wherein said first frame phase difference adjusting unit obtains
25 the optimum shift value, as a first shift value for adjusting the

phase synchronous in the relay node, by taking a mode of the frame phase differences with respect to said plurality of other relay nodes.

5 7. A method of frame phase synchronous in a digital mobile communications system in which a plurality of relay nodes, switching nodes as slave nodes of the relay node, and base station nodes as slave nodes of the switching node are provided, said method comprising:

10 measuring a frame phase difference, in said relay node, with respect to other relay nodes using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back;

obtaining an optimum shift value as a first shift value for
15 adjusting the phase synchronous in the relay node;

notifying the first shift value from the relay node to a switching node connected to said relay node as a slave;

measuring a frame phase difference, in said switching node, with respect to said host relay node and a frame phase difference
20 with respect to a base station node as the slave using a method of calculating a frame phase difference from a propagation delay time through ATM cell loop-back;

obtaining a second shift value, in said switching node, by adding the notified first shift value to a shift value derived
25 from the measured frame phase difference with respect to said host

relay node for adjusting the phase synchronous in the switching node;

obtaining a third shift value, in said switching node, by adding the second shift value to a shift value derived from the measured frame phase difference with respect to said base station node as the slave for notifying of the third shift value said base station node; and

adjusting the phase synchronous, in said base station node, by the third shift value notified by said host switching node.

8. A frame phase synchronous system for adjusting phase synchronisation in a digital mobile communications system, said system being substantially as described with reference to the drawings.

9. A method of frame phase synchronisation in a digital mobile communications system, said method being substantially as described with reference to the drawings.

10. In a frame phase synchronous system, a relay node substantially as herein described with reference to Fig. 2 of the drawings.

11. In a frame phase synchronous system, a switching node substantially as herein described with reference to Fig. 3 of the drawings.

12. In a frame phase synchronous system, a frame phase synchronising part in a base station, said synchronising part being substantially as herein described with reference to Fig. 4 of the drawings.

13. A method of one-way propagation delay time measurement, said method being substantially as herein described with reference to Fig. 6 of the drawings.

Dated 23 September, 1999

NEC Corporation

Patent Attorneys for the Applicant/Nominated Person

SPRUSON & FERGUSON

Fig.1

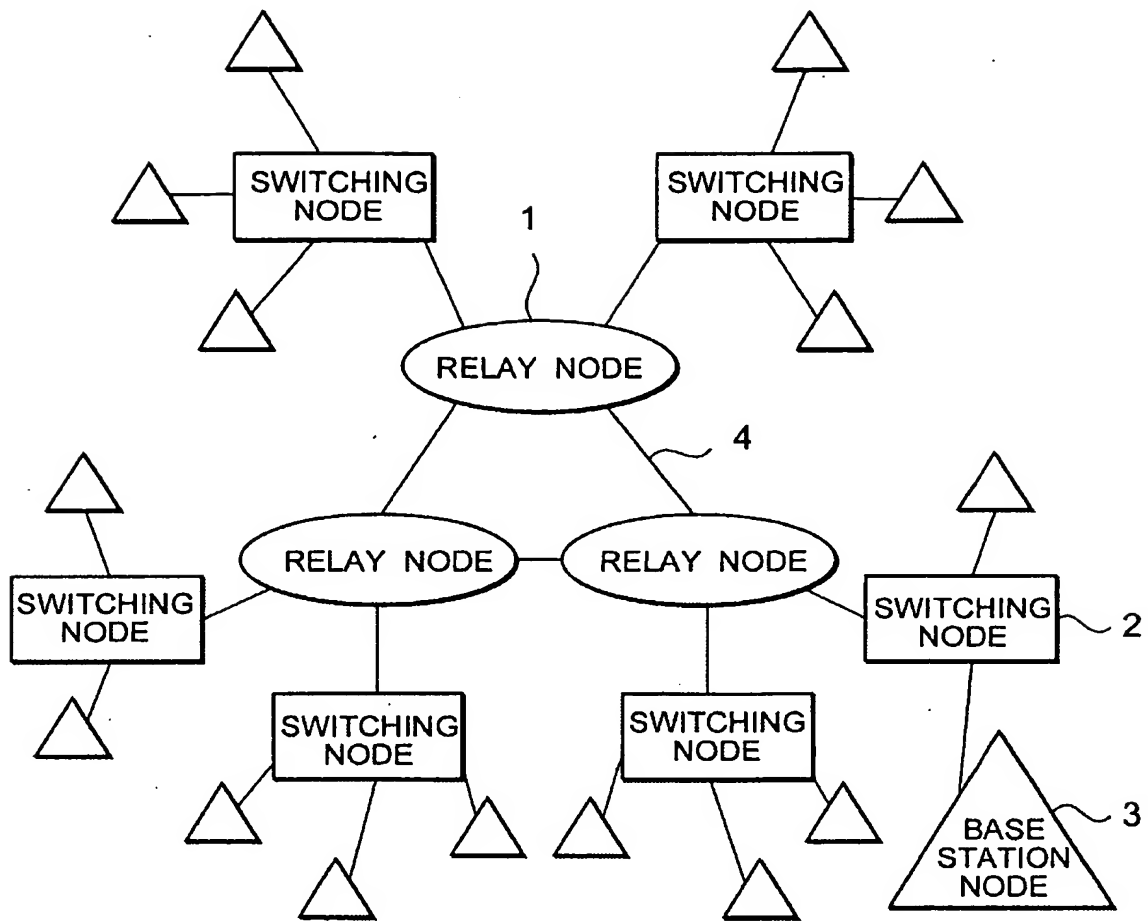


Fig.2

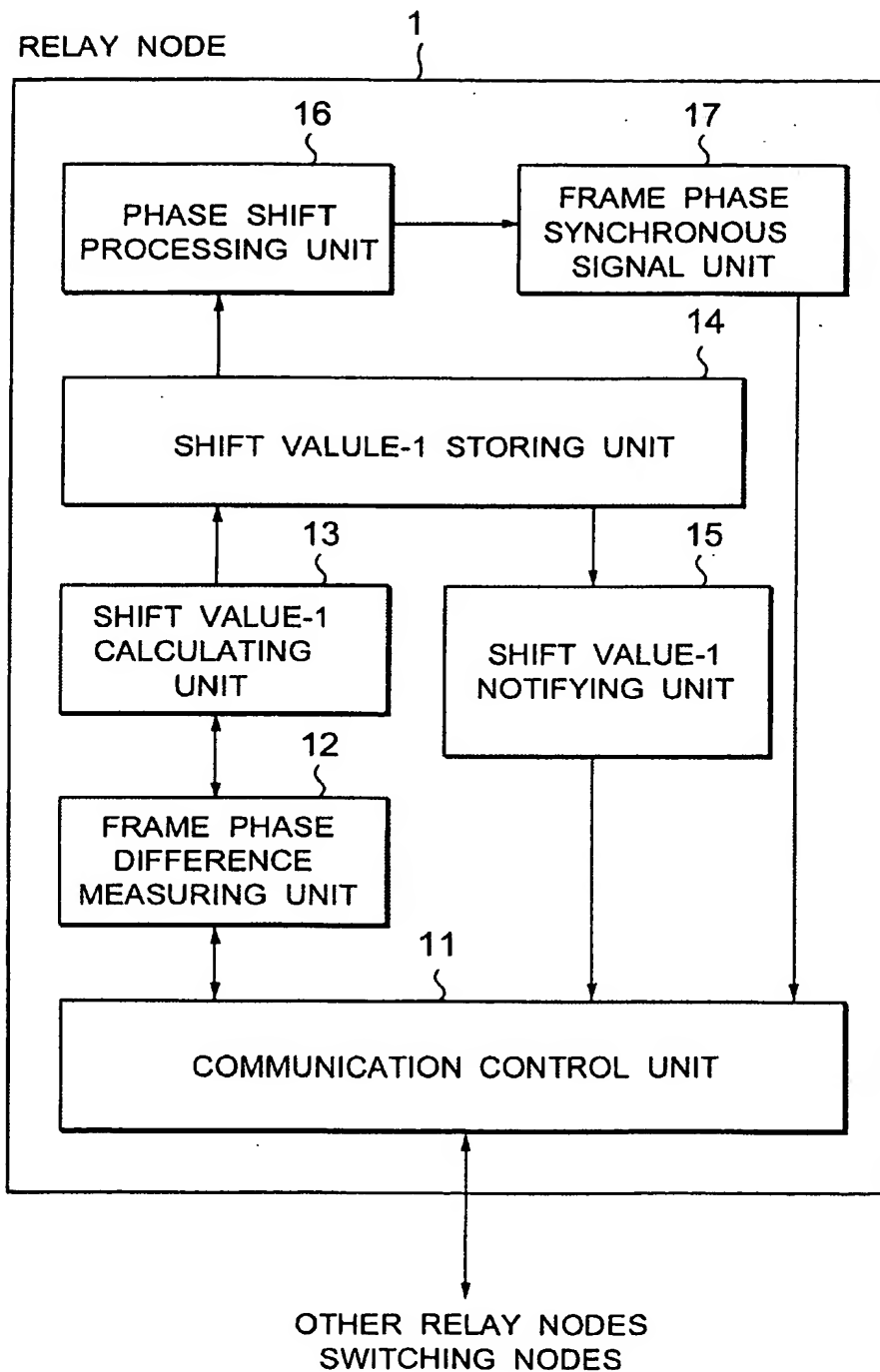


Fig.3

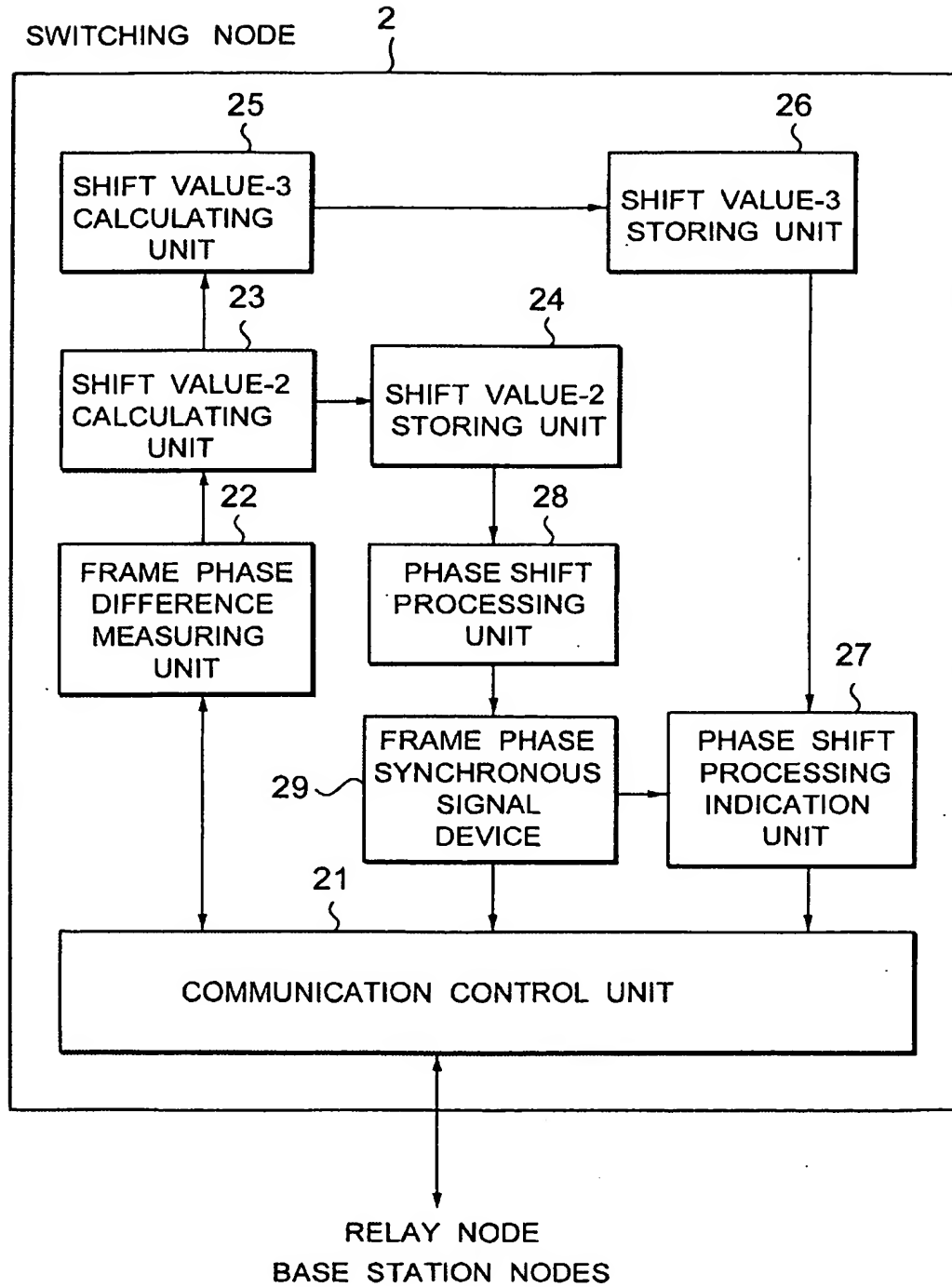


Fig.4

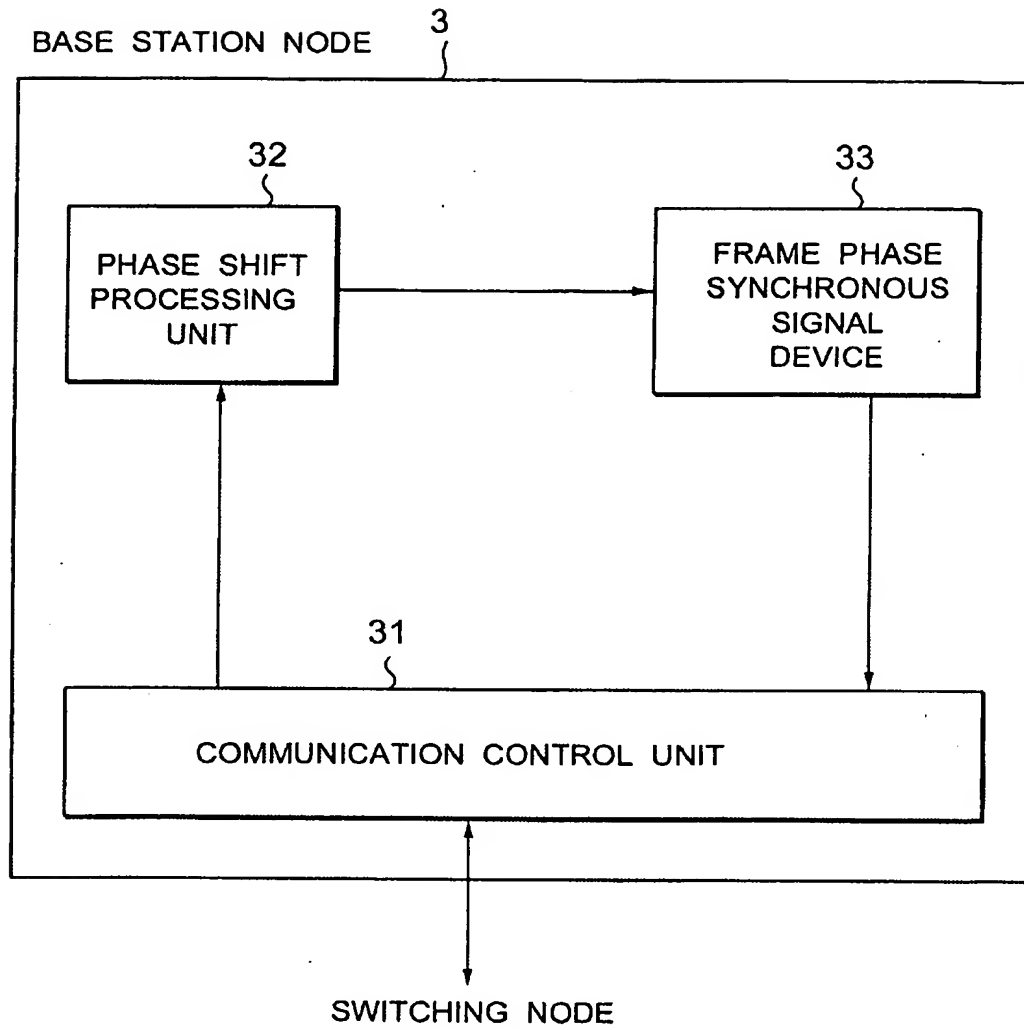


Fig.5

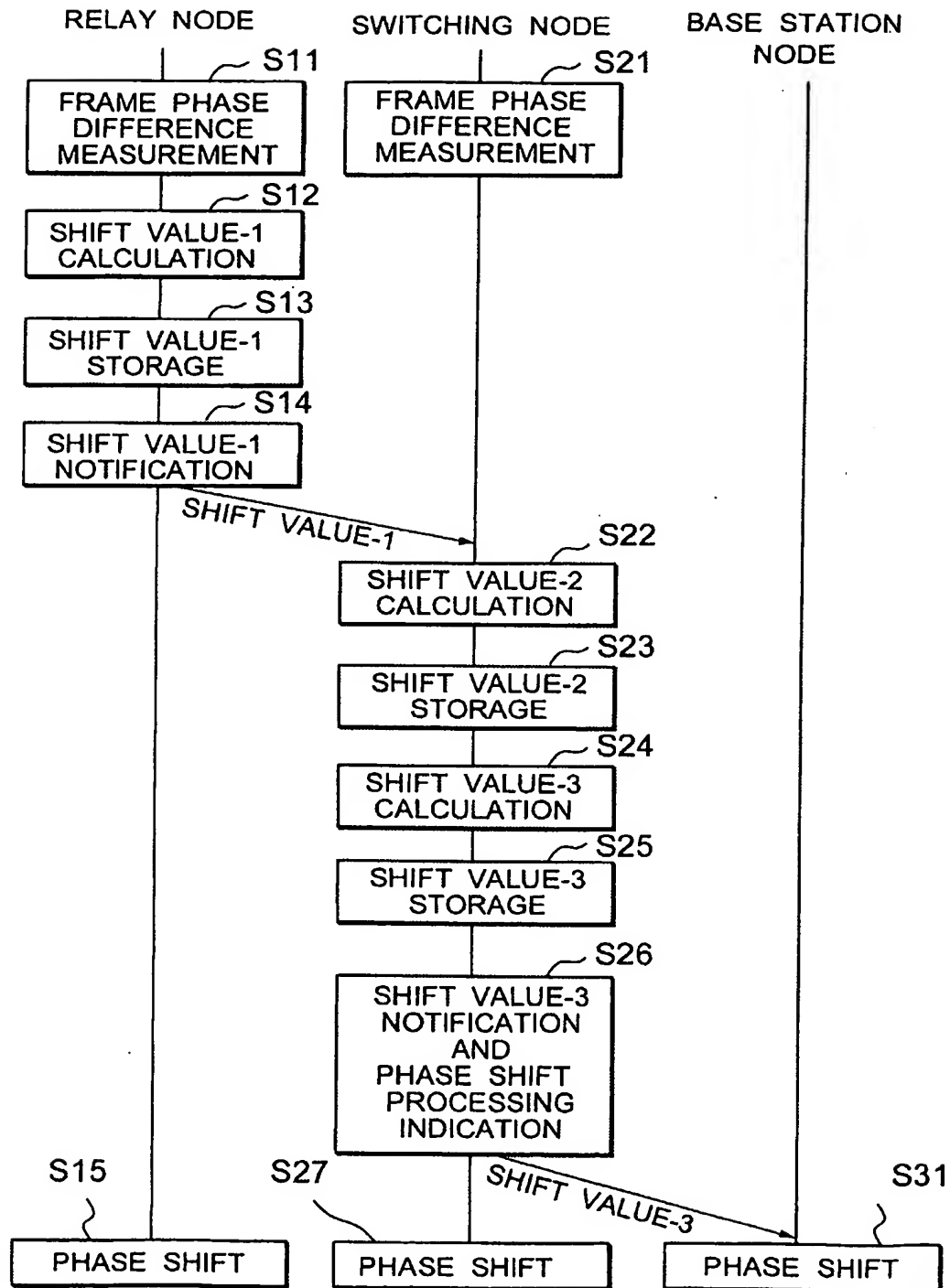
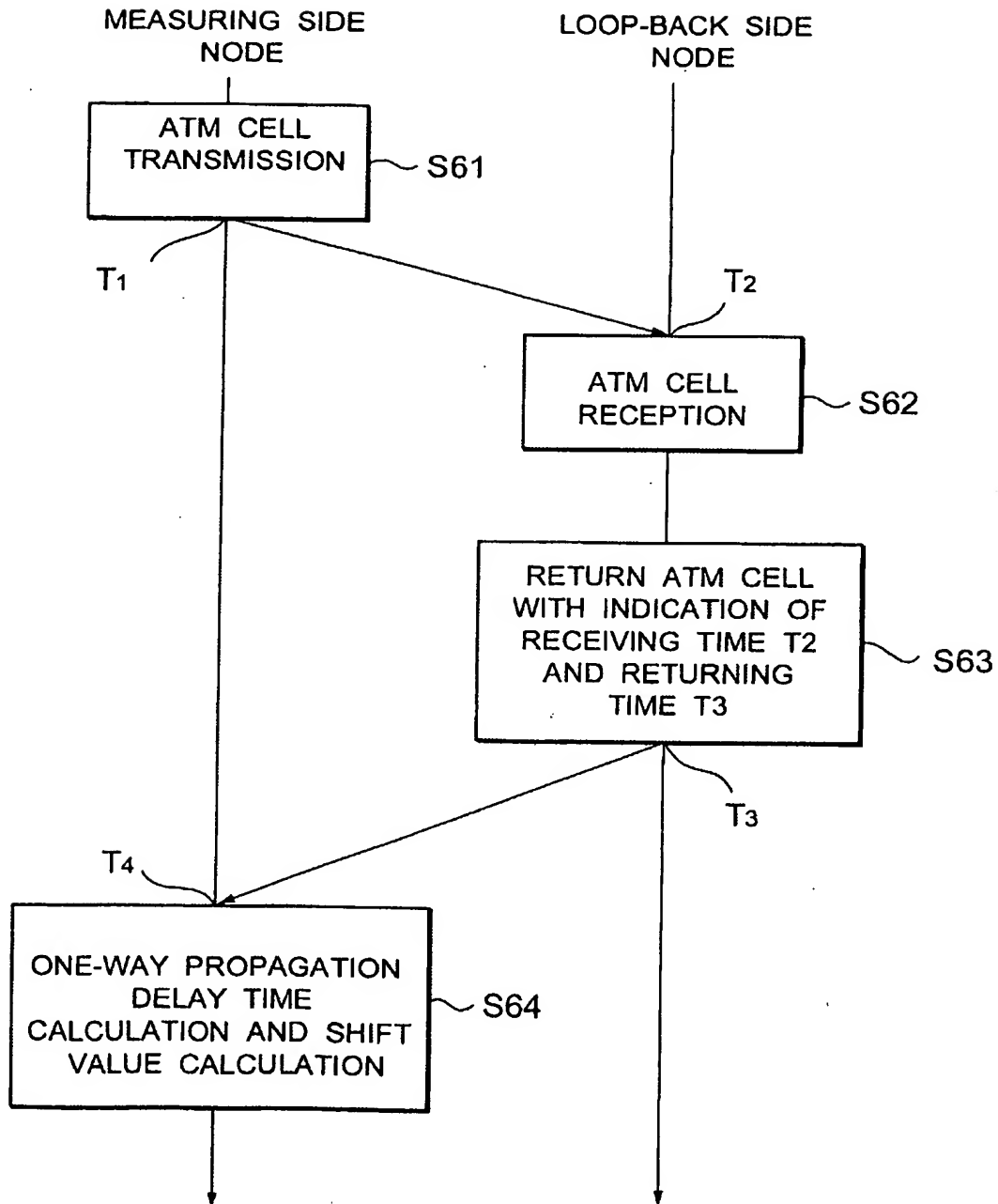


Fig.6



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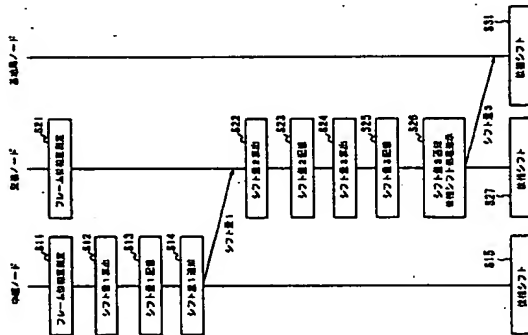
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(54) 【発明の名称】 ノード間フレーム位相同期方式及び方法

(57) 【要約】

【課題】従来のデジタル移動通信システムにおいて、フレーム位相同期信号を網を介して一つのマスター局から交換局ノード並びに基地局ノードに供給してノード間でマスタ・スレーブ方式で位相同期を図っているが、同期精度に問題がある。また、従来の相互同期方式では、全てのノードにおいて時刻合わせ用のバスを作成し、フレーム位相同期を測定する演算装置を備える必要があるため、構成が複雑になるという問題がある。

【解決手段】ノード間をATM回線で接続し、ノード間のフレーム位相同期をATMセルの折返しによって測定する方法を利用して、中継ノード間のフレーム位相同期を相互同期方式により保持する。交換ノードは上位の中継ノードに同期を合わせるマスタ・スレーブ方式により、フレーム位相同期を保持する。基地局ノードはマスタ・スレーブ方式により上位の交換ノードと同期を合わせる。これにより、網全体のノード間のフレーム位相同期を確立する。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 ATM回線により複数の中継ノードがメッシュ接続され、中継ノードが配下に複数の交換ノードを収容し、交換ノードが配下に複数の基地局ノードが無線により移動局と接続される移動通信システムにおいて、各ノード間のフレーム位相同期をATMセルの折返しによって往復伝送遅延時間から算出する方法を用いることを特徴とする。

前記中継ノードは、

前記他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期を測定するフレーム位相同期方式と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記配下に収容する交換ノードに前記シフト量1を通知するシフト量1通知部と、

前記シフト量1により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記交換ノードは前記上位の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期及び前記配下に収容する基地局ノードとの位相同期を測定するフレーム位相同期方式と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた上位の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期、上位の中継ノードより通知された前記シフト量1を加えることによりシフト量2を算出するシフト量2算出部と、

前記シフト量2により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた配下に収容する基地局ノードとのフレーム位相同期に、前記シフト量2を加えることによりシフト量3を算出するシフト量3算出部と、

前記シフト量3を算出するシフト量3算出部と、

前記配下に収容する基地局ノードに前記シフト量3を通知し、位相シフトを実施するよう指示する位相シフト処理指示部とを備え、

前記基地局ノードは、

前記上位の交換ノードにより通知されたシフト量3により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記上位の交換ノードに前記シフト量3によるシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

ドを収容し、交換ノードが配下に収容する複数の基地局ノードが無線により移動局と接続される移動通信システムにおいて、各ノード間のフレーム位相同期をATMセルの折返しによって往復伝送遅延時間から算出する方法を用いることを特徴とする。

前記中継ノードは、

前記他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期及び配下に収容する交換ノードとの位相同期を測定するフレーム位相同期方式と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた配下に収容する交換ノードとの位相同期に、前記シフト量1を加えることによりシフト量2を算出するシフト量2算出部と、

前記シフト量2を算出するシフト量2算出部と、

前記配下に収容する交換ノードに前記シフト量2を通知し、位相シフトを実施するよう指示する位相シフト処理指示部とを備え、

前記交換ノードは前記上位の中継ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記交換ノードは前記上位の中継ノードにより通知されたシフト量2により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた上位の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期、上位の中継ノードより通知された前記シフト量1を加えることによりシフト量2を算出するシフト量2算出部と、

前記シフト量2により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた配下に収容する基地局ノードとのフレーム位相同期に、前記シフト量2を加えることによりシフト量3を算出するシフト量3算出部と、

前記シフト量3を算出するシフト量3算出部と、

前記配下に収容する基地局ノードに前記シフト量3を通知し、位相シフトを実施するよう指示する位相シフト処理指示部とを備え、

前記基地局ノードは、

前記上位の交換ノードにより通知されたシフト量3により自ノードの位相を補正する位相シフト処理部とを備え、

前記上位の交換ノードに前記シフト量3によるシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記フレーム位相同期方式により求めた複数の他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相同期の平均値をとることによりシフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

前記シフト量1を算出するシフト量1算出部と、

【0025】まず、測定側局は、ATMセルの時刻情報部分に送信時刻T1を載せ、フレーム位相測定部(1)2又は(2)より通過側局(11又は21)を介して、当該ATMセルを折り返し側局へ送信する(S61)。折り返し側局では測定側局から送られてきたATMセルを受信すると(S62)、受信したセルの時刻情報部分に当該セルの受信時刻(T2)及び返信時刻(T3)を載せ、時刻T3において測定側局へ返信する(S63)。測定側局では、折り返し側局から送られてきたセルを受信すると、受信時刻T4を記録する(S64)。次に、フレーム位相測定部(12又は22)は、得られた情報により測定側局と折り返し側局の間の片道伝播遅延時間と折り返し側局の片道伝播遅延時間d mは、 $T2 - T1$ と $T4 - T3$ の平均により求める。さらに、フレーム位相差を算出する。ここで、測定側局と折り返し側局にフレーム位相差がなければ、折り返し側局における時刻T3に送出されたATMセルは、測定側局に受信されるはずである。すなわち、測定側局におけるATMセル受信時刻T4は、 $T3 + d m$ に等しいはずである。従って、測定側局と折り返し側局のフレーム位相が一斉していない場合、フレーム位相差は $T4 - T3 - d m$ で求まる。

【0026】この各ノード間のフレーム位相差測定は、厳密に時刻同期して行う必要はないので、保守員のマニュアルでの時刻合わせによる時刻補正時であり、

【0027】各中継ノードのシフト量1算出部13は、フレーム位相測定部12によるフレーム位相差測定によって得られた他の中継ノードとのフレーム位相差の平均値をとり、この平均値をシフト量1と算出し(S12)、この値をシフト量1配電部14に配電させる(S13)。また、シフト量1通知部15により、配下に収める全ての交換ノードに対してシフト量1を通知する(S14)。

【0028】各交換ノード2においては、シフト量2算出部23が、上位の中継ノードから通知されたシフト量1に、フレーム位相測定部22によって得られた上位の中継ノードとのフレーム位相差を加えることによりシフト量2を算出し(S22)。この値をシフト量2配電部24に配電する(S23)。また、シフト量2通知部25によって得られた配下に収める各基地局ノードとのフレーム位相差を加えることにより各基地局ノード毎のシフト量3を算出し(S24)。この値をシフト量3配電部26に配電する(S25)。

【0029】上述の動作により各中継ノードと交換ノードはシフト量1、2及び3を配電した状態で、毎日標準時刻によって認知した所定の時刻において、位相シフトを実施する。

【0030】各中継ノード1においては、所定の時刻に

位相シフト処理部16がシフト量1配電部14にあらじめ記憶しているシフト量1を読み出し、フレーム位相同期側局装置17に対してフレーム位相差を補正する位相シフトを実施する(S15)。

【0031】各交換ノード2においては、中継ノードと同じ所定の時刻に位相シフト処理部28がシフト量2配電部24にあらじめ記憶しているシフト量2を読み出し、フレーム位相同期側局装置29に対してフレーム位相差を補正する位相シフトを実施する(S27)。ただし、交換ノード2は配下に収める基地局ノード3の位相シフトを制御するため、自ノードの位相シフト(S27)を行う前に、位相シフト処理部27がシフト量3配電部26からシフト量3を読み出し、配下に収める各基地局ノード3に対して対応するシフト量3を送出し、位相シフト処理を行うよう指示する(S26)。

【0032】基地局ノード3においては、所定の時刻に上位の交換ノード2から送られるシフト量3を受信すると、位相シフト処理部32がフレーム位相同期側局装置33に対し、フレーム位相差を補正する位相シフトを実施する(S31)。

【0033】なお、シフト量1は中継ノード間のフレーム位相差の平均値としたが、ノードの数が増えた場合はばらつきの影響を避けるために中央値又は最頻値をシフト量1としてもよい。また、ATM回線の遅延変動のばらつきが大きい場合、各ノード間の位相差を計測すると決定を複数回実施して平均値もしくは中央値、最頻値をとるにしてもよい。

【0034】本実施例では、中継ノードと配下に収める交換ノードの間のフレーム位相差を、交換ノードにおいて測定することとしたが、これは中継ノードにおいて測定するように構成してもよい。また、交換ノードと配下に収める基地局ノードの間のフレーム位相差を、交換ノードにおいて測定することとしたが、これは基地局ノードにおいて測定するように構成してもよい。

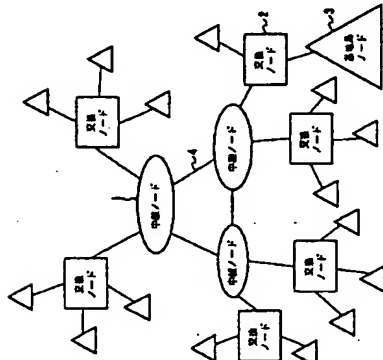
【0035】

【発明の効果】本発明は、伝送遅延時間の測定にATM回線を用いているため精度の高いノード間フレーム位相同期を確立することができる。また、ネットワーク全体のフレーム位相のマスター局が存在せず、中継ノード間の統計平均でフレーム位相が決まるため、ネットワークとしてのフレーム位相保持の冗長性が増すとともに、運用管理が容易になる。また、中継ノード間のフレーム同期の補正を相互同期方式で行い、中継ノードと交換ノード間および交換ノードと基地局ノード間のフレーム同期の補正をマスタースレーブ方式で行う構成により、基地局には位相差の演算装置が必要なくなり構成が容易になるという効果を奏する。

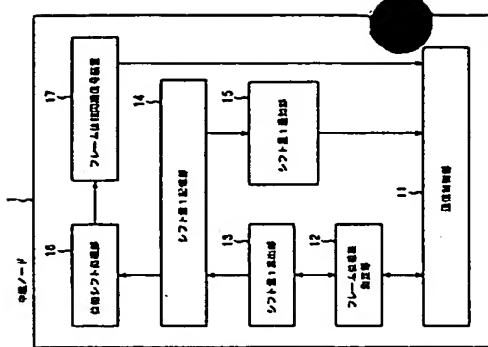
【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】移動通信網のノード構成を示す図。

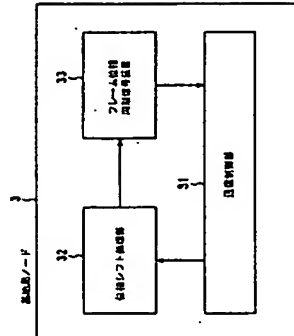
【図2】中継ノードの構成を示すブロック図。



【図1】



【図2】



【図4】

